

# "Chobot Challenge"

## 15k TRAIL RUN

SUN, JULY 9, 2017 \*\* 9 AM \*\* RUSTIC PARK, BIRDSBORO, PA

Honoring Michael Chobot; trail runner, award winning sound engineer, lovable eccentric.

**Point Scoring Race for the Mid-Atlantic USA T & F Off-Road Series**

**New For 2017:** no water crossing right in beginning unless you choose to get to the start that way, less running on firelanes, Clydesdale and Master Clydes awards, every attempt to be made to redesign the course from its 8.4M 2016 distance to a 15k. Actual distance will be confirmed/publicized prior to race day.

Michael Chobot (sounds like "Robot"), in his too-short 26 years, was AWESOME yet somewhat of a "weird duck". Ironically, a 2013 Emmy nominee in sound for a wildlife documentary entitled "Duckumentary", Michael marched to the beat of a different "drum, harmonica & kazoo". He developed a taste for Baked Beans over Egg Noodles when, while a struggling sound tech in NYC, he found both on sale at the same time. He refused to drink anything but chocolate milk on his 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday, maybe the ONLY day at Penn State that he DIDN'T have a beer in his hand. He toted a backpack with him everywhere containing oddities like a compass, astronaut food, a 1 lb bag of rice, a space blanket, twine, waterproof matches, a Swiss army knife and other things that only Michael could see the need to have with him at all times. He once carried a queen sized mattress overland for 2 miles on his back instead of using a truck available to him just to see if he could do it. Even till his passing in 2013, Michael wasn't just a "brother" or "son" or "sound engineer" or "trail runner" or "Penn Stater", he was a little bit of "everything". And the Chobot Challenge, on some of the same Berks Co's trails where Michael learned to run, is a little bit of "everything" too! It has long, gradual climbs that will tax you and long, gradual downhills where you'll run so fast that it will at least LOOK like you actually trained hard for this. It passes one of the prettiest sites in Eastern PA; a spot known to very few; even those living in this area. It has 5 narrow & shallow creek crossings (one of the few races to still ALLOW creek crossings); with the only knee deep one right before the finish. You'll run everything from smooth single track to abandoned roads, with a pretty creekside start/finish, a covered pavilion, playground, modern bathrooms, shower, etc. on hand too. And naturally, it has all the other race aspects that make Pretzel City the top trail race organizer in the East. Come on out and run the type of trails that brought Michael so much joy and happiness, cause they're sure to bring YOU joy and happiness as well! **LEGAL LINGO: YOU RACE AT YOUR OWN RISK & ARE SOLEY RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR WELFARE WHILE RACING!** For the most part, these trails are cleaner than our last presidential election, but what isn't? But if you get bruised somehow, drag your boo-boo to the next aide station so we can get you out via fossil fuel. Worried about getting lost? Stevie Wonder could follow this course. Without help! Since longer trail races can be a little "tuff", entry is discouraged for 1) runners under 18 (contact race director for exceptions), 2) anyone who can watch a Hallmark Channel Original Movie without barfing and 3) anyone who remembers Honey Boo Boo fondly. Or at all!

**Entry:** Race starts at 9 A.M.; reg. opens at 8 A.M. \$34 if postmarked by Mon, June 19th, includes a guaranteed short sleeved "breathable" tech shirt of the size you request. After that, fee is \$39 while the shirts last; \$32 when they're gone. FEW "EXTRA" SHIRTS PRINTED over our pre-reg needs so if you want some type to proof that you had the fortitude or stupidity to enter this event, PRE-ENTER even if the price break has passed!! Tech shirts only guaranteed to those entering by 6/19, cotton shirts may be substituted after that point. Post race entries that enter before raceday get first dibs at the remaining shirts. Rain or shine, no refunds or mailed shirts/awards.

**Extras:** Lots of awards, covered registration area, hot & cold post race grub, instant results, results on pretzelcitysports.com in 1-2 days, WELL marked course if no one screws with it, 2 water stops, EMS on site, playground at start/finish for the rug rats, nice creekside start/finish area where the family can picnic while you are out there suffering, decent amount of parking, etc. Please note: the course is not accessible by car so your fans may only see you in midrace if they are willing to hike & do some water crossings too.

**Awards:** M & F 1st & 2nd in each race plus:  
0-29: 4M, 4F 30-39: 4M, 4F 40-49: 4M, 4F 50-59:4M, 4F 60-67: 4M, 2F 68+: 2M, 1F  
Open Clydes (39 & und): 2M, 2F Master Clydes (40+): 2M, 2F Top Clyde Regardless of Age: 1M, 1F

**Clydesdale Qualifying Weight:** Men: your weight (in lbs.) divided by your height (in inches) must be at least 2.75 lbs/inch. Women: same formula but your "min" is 2.20 lbs/inch. This method stops the "buff but big's" from taking these awards from the more challenged "fluffies". May have scale on site to both confirm eligibility & embarrass.

**Directions: From the West:** Take Rt. 724 East from Reading until it T's in Birdsboro at the Turkey Hill. Go right and STAY on that road, do NOT turn left at Rita's. Pass any sign that say Road Closed Ahead. Turns into Furnace St & then Haycreek Rd; do not bear right anywhere along the way. Rustic Park is where the road dead-ends.

**From the East:** Take Rt. 724 West from Pottstown, Go about 8 miles on Rt 724 until it "T's" in Birdsboro at Rita's Italian Ice. Go left and STAY on that road, do NOT turn right at Rita's. Pass any sign that say Road Closed Ahead. Turns into Furnace St & then Haycreek Rd; do not bear right anywhere along the way. Rustic Park is where the road dead-ends.

**PLEASE NOTE: ANY AMOUNT PAID TO PRETZEL CITY OVER THE REGISTRATION FEE, ALONG WITH A PORTION OF THE RACE PROCEEDS, WILL BE DONATED TO THE MICHAEL CHOBOT MEMORIAL SOUND STUDIO AT PENN STATE-MAIN CAMPUS.**

Those wanting a proof of donation for tax purposes should include a separate check, instead, for that amount only, made out to The Pennsylvania State University.

**optional on-line reg via credit card available on  
[www.pretzelcitysports.com](http://www.pretzelcitysports.com)**

**(closes at midnight, the Wed before the race-nominal service charge applies)  
INSURED BY ROAD RUNNERS CLUB OF AMERICA**

**Check Payable to & Mailed to (with waiver): Pretzel City Sports, 112 W. 36TH ST., READING, PA 19606  
Race Dictator: Ron Horn, rhornpcs@aol.com , 610-779-2668, [www.pretzelcitysports.com](http://www.pretzelcitysports.com)**

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Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: M F

Race Day Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Tech Shirt Size: XS S M L XL 2X  
(tech only guaranteed for prerag, postreg may get cotton shirts)

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Already on Pretzel City Email List? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No  
(print VERY clearly)

Tel:(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ AM, PM or Both \_\_\_\_\_??? Clydesdale?? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

WAIVER: I know that running a trail run is a potentially hazardous activity. I should not enter or run unless I am medically able & properly trained. I also know that there will be traffic, winter hazards, debris, and poor footing on the course and assume the risk for running on it. I also assume any or all other risks associated with running or attending the race including but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the affects of the weather, the conditions of the roads and getting lost, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. Knowing these facts, and in consideration of your accepting my entry fee, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators or anyone else who might claim on my behalf, covenant not to sue, and waive, release and discharge Pretzel City Sports, the Hay Creek Watershed Association, Birdsboro, PA Water Authority, all municipalities in which the event is held, the race committee, volunteers, all other organizations directly or indirectly associated with the race, any or all sponsors including their agents, employees, assigns or anyone acting on their behalf, or anyone else associated in any way with this race, from any or all claims or liability for death, personal injury or property damage of any kind or nature whatsoever arising out of , or in the course of, my participation in this event. This waiver extends to all claims of every kind or nature whatsoever; foreseen or unforeseen, known or unknown. Also,By entering this race, I am granting permission to Pretzel City Sports to use any pictures or likenesses of me secured at the event in any way they see fit without review, restriction or compensation. I HAVE READ & UNDERSTAND THIS WAIVER:

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_

**Print as clear as the water you'll run thru. – Sign above waiver—Chobot App may be copied**